COMMENCEMENT NUMBER.

THE UNDERGRADUATE.

FOUNDED IN 1875.

VOL. VIII. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, JULY, 1883. NO. 9.

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MIDDLEBURY:
PRINTED AT THE REGISTER BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.
1883.

Middlebury College,

FOUNDED IN 1800.

THE COLLEGE is finely located in the midst of a beautiful park in the village of Middlebury, Vermont The locality is healthful, and the College offers the advantage of thorough instruction at a moderate cost

The requirements for admission and course of instruction are as follows :

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION.

LATIN.—Latin Grammar, including the Rules of Prosody and Scanning; Cæsar's Commentaries, three books, or Sallust's Conspiracy of Catiline; Cicero. six orations. including the four against Catiline; Virgil, six books of the Æneid; Arnold's Latin Prose Composition to the VIIth Chapter, or Allen's to the 24th Lesson.

GREEK —Greek Grammar; Xenophon's Anabasis, three books; Homer's Iliad, two books; Jones' Greek Composition, twelve lessons.

Ancient and Modern Geography.

Arithmetic; Algebra through Quadratic Equations, and three books of Wentworth's Geometry.

Real equivalents will be accepted in place of any of the Latin or Greek authors named above.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

FRESHMAN CLASS —Latin Grammar, (Harkness,or Allen and Greenough); Latin Prose Composition. (Allen or Arnold); Latin Synonyms, (Doderlein); Selections from Livy; some Philosophical Treatise of Cicero; Horace's Odes and Epodes; Xenophon's Hellenica; Herodotus; Xenophon's Memorabilia; Greek Composition, (Jones); History and Antiquity, Etymology and Syntax of the Greek Verb. (Goodwin), Algebra,(Davies' Bourdon), Geometry, (Wentworth); Rhetoric,(Kellogg).

SOPHOMORE CLASS.—Horace's Epistle and Satires; (Tacitus, (selections); Juvenal or Persius; Plato; Euripides; Boice's Exercises in Greek Syntax; Lysias; Exercises in writing Latn; Analytical Geometry, (Loomis), Trigonometry, Plane and Spherical, Mensuration, Surveying. with practice in the field, Navigation, (Loomis), Calculus (Loomis), Trench's English Past and Present,-

JUNIOR CLASS—Otis' Elementary German; Terence or Plautus; Goethe's Prose; Ganot's Physics; Newcomb's Astronomy; Chemistry, (Elliot and Storer), Botany, (Gray); Rhetoric, (Whately), Logic, (Jevons), Logic of Christian Evidences. (Wright).

SENIOR CLASS.— Political Economy, (Cary, Fawcett), International Law (Woolsey), History of Civilization (Guizot), Butler's Analogy; Fine Art, (Torrey); Natural Theology, Moral Science, (Calderwood); Mental Science; (Porter's Human Intellect, Hamilton): History of Grecian Philosophy, Geology, (Dana); Zoology, (Orton); English Literature. (Shaw); Forensic Discussions; Review of Studies of the Year.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Instruction is given chiefly in connection with text books, but in each department lectures are given by members of the Faculty.

In the study of Chemistry unusual facilities are offered. Each student is expected to do practical work at the tables furnished in a neatly fitted and well-equipped Laboratory.

In Natural History, besides the text-book exercises, frequent dissections are made before the class pursuing Zoology. Field work is done by the class in Botany, and expeditions into the surrounding country by the class studying Geology. A herbarium is prepared by each student of Botany and prizes are awarded for the best collections.

An extensive and completely arranged Cabinet of rocks, minerals and fossils is designed for the constant use of the class in Geology.

The Cabinet and Museum contain a large number of specimens, and are designed especially for the use of the classes in Natural History. The specimens are all placed under their respective classes, are newly arranged in the new cabinet, and are conspicuously labeled.

The College Library contains 13,000 volumes, and a permanent fund has been recently established for its enlargement. The books are conveniently arranged in the new library room and are open to the students from 12 to 2 o'clock.

A College Reading Room, free to all, has periodical literature on file.

The instruction aims to be practical as well as theoretical, and for this reason, in Surveying and the use of the Transit, field practice is given.

There are also numerous prizes offered for excellence in the different departments. These, in connection with the liberal aid by scholarships furnished to those whose circumstances require it, render the tuition of many practically free, and no young man of energy need be deterred by financial considerations from entering the College.

CALENDAR.

1882. Sept. 14.—Fall Term begins, Thursday.
Dec 19 —Fall Term ends, Tuesday.
Winter vacation of two weeks.
1883. Jan. 4.—Winter Term begins, Thursday.
March 27.—Junior Exhibition, Tuesday evening.
March 27.—Winter Term ends, Tuesday.
Spring vacation of two weeks.
April 12.—Spring Term begins, Thursday.
June 26—Annual Examination begins, Tuesday.
July 1.—Baccalaureate Sermon and Anniversary of Philadelphian Society, Sunday.
July 3.—Anniversary of the Associated Alumni, Tuesday.
July 4.—Commencement, Wednesday.
Summer vacation of ten weeks.
Sept. 13 —Fall Term begins, Thursday.

For Catalogue and any information, address the President,

CYRUS HAMLIN,
Middlebury, Vt.

The Undergraduate.

VOL. VIII. MIDDLEBURY, VT., JULY, 1883. NO. 9.

RIGHT OBJECTS AND METHODS OF THOUGHT.

THOUGHT is the vital force of the mind. When it slackens, intellectual life decays; when it ceases, intellectual life ends. Hence, the power and activity of a people's thought is the measure of all that is deepest and noblest in the character of that people. But thought, our intellectual life, like all other life, has a higher object than mere existence. That higher object is the discovery of truth, and its application to human conduct. To this all thinkers must agree; for no man ever did, or ever can, believe in his heart that truth can lead to evil, or falsehood lead to good. Far above the din of controversy shines the beacon of perfect truth; and in rapture and in hope we look upward and adore. Inaccessible forever to human imperfection is that far-shining star; yet every ray it casts is treasured, and slowly and patiently, day by day, year by year, century by century, mankind are mounting higher and higher into the floods of its glorious light.

Truth being, then, the common object of all thought, a true man will never for an instant knowingly stand in its way. He will welcome every test which can lead to its establishment, though his own opinions be blown to the winds thereby. Here, then, all honest thinkers are agreed—that the attainment and application of truth are the highest objects of human thought. Now to the attainment of truth correct thinking is indispensable. A false opinion, intrenched behind a false method of thought, is invincible till the false method itself be overthrown: and even a truth, lurking in the shades of sophistry and mysticism, can be no more than a dead dogma; to become a living principle, it requires the light of correct and searching thought. The vagaries of the dreamer and the calm thought of the philosopher can have no common ground for meeting.

Now there are certain principles which make thought what it should be,—a search after truth; and there are certain errors which, by violating these principles, make thought useless, or worse than useless. Of all these errors perhaps none is more universal, or more fatal, than mysticism. For thought, to have any true value, must not only be exact, but must be exactly and clearly expressed; then, and then only, it may be understood, considered intelligently, and accepted or rejected upon its merits. Mysticism strikes at the very root of this. It clothes fancies and half-formed thoughts in lofty language, and offers them to mankind as the universal principles of life and conduct; it magnifies a half-truth, or a single phase of truth, till it shuts out the view of all the rest, and becomes, in effect, a lie; it asserts that for which it offers no proof, and even that for which it asserts that no proof can be offered. Nor is mysticism, as is sometimes supposed, the vice of a single class of thinkers, but it is found in all the schools. In the rhapsodies of the religionist, in the fancies of the economist and the sociologist, and in the dreams of the philosopher, we trace its presence as clearly as in the visions of the poet. Now whence arises this far-sweeping flood of mysticism which threatens to engulf and overwhelm all exact thought? It springs from two great sources.

The first of these is that carelessness, or impatience of exact thought, which vitiates even the mind of genius, and impels it to cast upon the

world a shower of brilliant fragments, rather than to mould them to a consistent whole. Emerson, with one of the noblest minds ever given to man, was the slave of this vice; and he well displayed its fatal power, when he said:—

"In your metaphysics you have denied personality to the Deity: yet when the devout motions of the soul come, yield to them heart and life, though they should clothe God with shape and color.....Speak what you think now in hard words and to-morrow speak what to-morrow think in hard words again, though it contradict every thing you said to-day."

So says Emerson; and where, in all the utterances of the great minds of the world, can you find one more humiliating to an earnest soul? But, it may be said,is a man never to change his opinions? Always, upon reasonable grounds. Keep every sense strained for the discovery of new truth, or of ancient error; but do not *speak* till you have some definite opinion, the fruit of patient thought. If you are neither a theist, an atheist, or a pantheist, but all by turns, what light can you shed upon the struggling soul? "Speak what you think now in hard words and to-morrow speak what to-morrow thinks in hard words again, though it contradict every thing you said to-day," says Emerson. Nay, my brother! Rather wait till to-morrow come, and then, in its new light and strength, form an opinion worthy of the highest powers of your mind; and if that to-morrow never come, be silent still, content, since you can not be a teacher, to be at least a patient learner.

But there is another, and still more powerful, root, from which mysticism springs. This is that mental cowardice, that contemptible pride, which makes man unwilling to acknowledge the limits of his own power. He ranges through the realms of the finite, and then, when he reaches the borders of the infinite, too proud to stop there, he tries to bridge over its boundless gulf by the filmy web of symbols and of dreams. Knowledge can always find an exact expression; it is only ignorance and quackery that are forced to rely upon vagueness and symbolism. If you understand a thing, you can explain it clearly. If you know, or think you know, that a thing exists which you can not understand, you can at least say so plainly, stating the exact grounds and limits of your knowledge; and rest assured that not all the words in the world can add one iota to those grounds of belief, or take one step beyond those limits of finite power.

It was said of John Wesley, that "instead of traveling blindly on by means of inferences and analogies, he stopped short at the shores of the infinite, and wrote upon its sands that honest word—Unknown." Would that we had, in every department of thought, more men who, like him, should add to the active courage to proclaim their beliefs, that nobler, passive courage to confess their own ignorance! When men shall learn to state their opinions clearly, acknowledging their own frailty, half the bitterness of controversy, half the confusion between truth and falsehood, will have passed away.

A second requisite to the value of a system of thought, is that it lead to some fixed conclusion. Thought which leads neither to assertion nor denial, but only to universal doubt, has always existed; but never before, perhaps, has it been so powerful as it now is, under the name of agnosticism. But we are not therefore to condemn all that is called agnosticism. For agnosticism as a pure belief—for that agnosticism which, after searching patiently for the truth, sadly concludes that doubt is everywhere, and takes up its cross in silence—for that agnosticism which merely asserts that from imperfect minds perfect certainty cannot spring, and then goes patiently on, toiling for truth and virtue, we should have no feelings but of respect. Such an agnostic was George Eliot; and none ever wrought more faithfully than she wrought for the right, as it was given her to see it. Such an agnostic was Tennyson, when he sang from the riven depths of a mighty heart:—

"So runs my dream: yet what am I?
An infant crying in the night:
An infant crying for the light:
And with no language but a cry."

And in the agnosticism which out repeats that cry of sorrow and longing, every thinking mind must bear its part.

But there is another form of agnosticism, which asserts that because human thought can not lead to absolute certainty, all human thought is therefore vain; that because we can not have certain conclusions, we should seek none at all. Behind agnosticism like this, lurk sensuality, and torpor, and intellectual death, and despair. Believe it not, O man! Better a wrong opinion, so it be an honest one, than the indolence or the baseness which refuses to decide at all! In the belief in a just God who will reward virtue with eternal bliss, in the belief that self-regarding conduct tends ever toward morality as the highest human happiness, and in all the countless shades of positive belief that lie between, are found germs which may develop into noble life and conduct. But he who neither decides, nor seeks to decide, who neither knows, nor seeks to know, whether he is the immortal creation of God, the highest development of ever-ascending evolution, or a mere chance-product of no more account than the withered leaf,—what has he to lead him toward goodness? His life may be noble, or worthless, or wholly bad, but he knows it not; he has nothing by which to measure it. A society of such men could have no morality, and no conception of any; for without some fixed principles of thought, no test of conduct is possible.

It may seem strange that agnosticism, this spirit of universal negation and denial, should spring from mysticism, which arises chiefly from man's desire to assert more than he can know, yet so it is. The mystic, by asserting that for which he has no reason, prepares the way for universal doubt. Weighing nothing carefully, proving nothing clearly, he has no good reason for even the truths which he accepts; and when once a doubt has arisen, his whole system, truth and falsehood alike, crumbles to ruin. An utter agnostic is only a mystic one degree advanced. He is, to borrow a phrase, a mystic "gone to seed."

A third essential to the value of a system of thought, is originality; and by originality we mean, not necessarily that the opinions, arguments, or phrases must be new, but that they must bear upon them that indescribable individuality which shows that the thinker, from whatever source he first drew his opinions, has shaped them, in the white-hot furnace of his mind, into the very images of his being. Then, and then only, has he the right to offer them to mankind.

First of all, then, be sincere, O man!—sincere to others, and to yourself. Accept nothing that you do not believe, though all the world beside accept it. Deny nothing that you do believe, though all the world beside deny it. But, it will be said, shall we not yield to authority? Yes, yield to authority all that it can ever claim—yield to it the right of guidance where your own mind sheds no clear light; but never yield to it your own sincere conviction, or your own self-respect. Ponder well what Carlyle, though the great champion of the despotism of the intellect, has said in words of fire:—

"What the light of your mind, which is the direct inspiration of the Almighty, pronounces incredible,—that, in God's name leave uncredited; at your peril do not try believing that. No subtlest hocus-pocus of 'reason' versus 'understanding' will avail for that feat;—and it is terribly perilous to try it in these provinces!"

To mould the thought of a nation, or of the world, is a gigantic task; yet it is a task in which the humblest of us has his part. Each one of us has around him a little circle of influence, and within that circle, however narrow it be, he is bound to labor faithfully, and to render just account. It is grand to watch from afar the torrent of human thought pouring on its resistless way; but that is the part of a dreamer, rather than an earnest man. It is sublime to direct that current against obstacle after obstacle, till it crumbles them all before it; but that is the part of a giant intellect. But away from the sweep of that majestic stream, far back among the silent hills, are the nameless sources whence

all its strength has sprung; and there, among those tiny fountains of individual thought, which a hand might arrest and turn aside, lies the work of our humbler powers. If we guide aright those little streamlets, till they mingle with that swelling river, and sweep on with it toward the shoreless ocean of truth, we can say, with thankful hearts, "We have done our duty, as the strength was given us to do it; we have borne our part in the struggle for truth, and in its final triumph we shall have our share."

TO THE ALUMNI OF MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE.

THOSE of you who were present at Commencement need not be told the old college has never been so cheery for many years. If in some former times there have been discouragement, or faint-hearted counsels, nothing of that kind appeared at the recent festival. The fact that the college no longer increases its debt, but meets all its expenses, with a small balance in the treasury, has contributed to restore confidence.

The universal judgment upon the prize speaking and upon the exercises of commencement day was that they were of a very high order, shewing excellent taste and sound thought and scholarship.

The inaugural addresses of the two new professors, Mr. Eaton and Mr. Foster, the one professor of Greek, the other of Philosophy, were such as we should expect of gentlemen of their scholarship and profound attainments. The college is a unit in the harmony, ability and enthusiasm of its professors. In this respect it was never better endowed than now.

The new measure of admitting ladies to the studies, under the supervision and control of the faculty and prudential committee, will be viewed differently by different individuals. I am assured there are some ready, and more than ready, to enter upon higher studies whose scholarship and attainments are not inferior to those of the other side of the house. Let us hope for good from the new measure.

Another pleasant feature of the commencement was the readiness to aid the college in its exigencies. The Hon. Mark Skinner of Chicago, class of '33, left his check for five hundred dollars for the library, and smaller gifts have been added and promised.

The reinvestment of funds at reduced rates of interest and some necessary advance in expenditures, brought from our treasurer the warning that fourteen hundred dollars will be needed to balance the general expenses of the coming year, leaving aside the library, which has been provided for. Seven hundred and fifty of this sum were immediately offered, and we appeal to you, the alumni, for the remainder. Will you allow your Alma Mater to suffer for bread, and when she calls upon you, give her instead of bread the cold stone of neglect?

But a far more important measure was initiated, which, with a little sustained energy must bear fruit. A subscription of fifty thousand dollars was proposed and Gov. Stewart pledged five thousand and Dr. Scott of Fitchburg half that sum, making in two pledges $7,500. It is believed that all the subscriptions made on other conditions will be voluntarily transferred to this, and in this way about $20,000 will be added.

We are now in every way prepared to do our best work. But we must be aided at this juncture to live without the fear of debt. The college has never been so confident of a great future as at present. It is true our numbers are now small. Every college has passed through similar experiences to prosperity and power. As our perfected arrangements become known, the great economy of expense in our new boarding hall, our unsurpassed courses of study in the classics, physics, and philosophy, the beauty and healthfulness of our location, we shall have all the students we can properly care for. Very large classes are worse than very small ones. A visitor from abroad, not an alumnus, remarked that if New York could only see this college as it is, in all its environment and its internal arrangements, it would have students enough from all those families that seek physical and moral health together with a sound intellectual training for their sons. Now is our time to prepare for that better future when our classes shall be full. I appeal to all the alumni to help us "according to their several ability."

CYRUS HAMLIN, President.

The Undergraduate.

Published Monthly During the College Year.

MIDDLEBURY, VT., JULY, 1883.

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SINGLE COPIES, - - - - - - - - - 12

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Editorial.

WITH this number, the editorial labors of the Editor-in-chief and the associate Editors from the Senior class are finished. Following out the policy outlined for the UNDERGRADUATE in the first number of the present volume, it has been our endeavor to make the paper an exponent of the best thought and discussion pertaining to the college, the alumni and students. We have endeavored impartially and fairly to comment on current topics; to accord deserved praise and condemn whatever seemed detrimental to the college or students. We regret that it has not been possible to fully carry out all our plans for the paper, owing to unforeseen obstacles. A change of printers delayed some of our numbers and impaired somewhat the appearance of two or three issues, and there has not been that hearty support from alumni and students which is due the college paper and the work which should have been done by the many has devolved on the few.

The Editor-in-chief takes this opportunity of thanking those of his associates who have rendered material and appreciated assistance in making the paper what it has been.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating." You have eaten. We trust the dish has been palatable. *Vale.*

AFTER having had the experience of the past year in connection with this paper, we may be allowed to call attention to what seems to us to be a defect in the present management of the paper and suggest a remedy. The defect lies in the manner of electing the editorial board. As at present provided for, the board is elected at the commencement of the college year. As a consequence the first issue is greatly delayed and when published must be slighted for lack of time and proper organization of the editorial force. This defect has been recognized almost universally by the college press and nearly all the boards of editors are now elected during the year, assuming their duties either at the commencement of the winter term, or in the spring term. Such a change will necessarily deprive the first outgoing board of a portion of their pleasure (?) in editing the paper, but the advantage accruing should be a sufficient inducement for the laying aside of personal preferences. We trust the constitution may be so amended the coming year as to allow such an arrangement.

Another need of the paper is an editorial room. Most of our exchanges have such a room, where the Editors can meet and where the Business Manager can attend to his work. There are unoccupied rooms in the college, one of which might be easily fitted up and at little expense.

AS will be seen by reference to the letter of the president to the alumni, the Corporation have decided to admit women to the college, "under the supervision and control of the Faculty." This "new departure" is one which has for the past year been the subject of much attention and discussion, not only among the cor-

poration, but also among the alumni, and the result will no doubt be a surprise to many who have predicted that Middlebury college would never become a co-educational Institution. After mature deliberation it has been thought best to make the change, and we trust that the experiment will be a complete success. One of the urgent demands of the times is for co-educational institutions, and in order to successfully compete with other colleges it seems necessary to meet the demand. Middlebury college certainly possesses advantages which less favored colleges have not. Its location is particularly favorable, its Faculty able, and its ability to meet the demand, none will question. In view of the fact that the past commencement has demonstrated that the college is not by any means on the eve of dissolution, thus removing the force of the objection that it is a measure undertaken as a last resort to save the Institution, and also that the policy of the college is now one of progression instead of conservatism, we are of the opinion that the Trustees have acted wisely in the matter.

THERE is one custom connected with commencement which deserves condemnation. This is the forcing upon the graduating class the entire expense of the occasion, except the exercises connected with the alumni association, as well as the responsibility of issuing all the programmes for the week. It seems only fair, in view of the fact that the class inviariably are out of pocket on the exercises, that the college should at least furnish that portion of the printing which relates exclusively to the exercises of the college, and pay the janitor's fees.

WE regret our inability to present the history of the UNDERGRADUATE which we promised in our last issue, owing to the impossibility of obtaining information material to its completeness, in season. We have devoted much of our space to the Commencement proceedings to the exclusion of other matter, believing it would be of more interest to the alumni.

This number has been delayed somewhat on account of the sickness of some of the compositors and a lack of others to fill the vacancy.

Subscribers wishing extra copies can have them forwarded to their own address, or to such addresses as they may elect, by sending the names with remittance to C. B. F. Palmer, New Haven, Vt.

WITH the other innovations, we had hoped to be able to announce the abolition of the marking system and the adoption of a system similar to that in operation at Amherst. We are unable to do so and must console ourselves by reflecting that "the mills of the gods grind slowly," and hoping that another commencement will bring the desired reform. The award of the Waldo prizes the past year furnishes another proof of the assertion which we have often made, that the system is practically useless as a means of determining the ability of a man and of recognizing scholarship. When men with no originality whatever obtain positions which are denied men in every way their superiors save in this, that they do not "cram" and "suck" for marks, it seems high time that some other system be adopted.

THAT the commencement which has just passed has been gratifying to the friends of the college, is saying but little. The writer has not had the pleasure of attending any alumni dinner at which the enthusiasm and hopefulness was more marked than at the dinner this year. Entire satisfaction with the management was expressed and the general feeling will be best learned by noticing the promptness with which a nucleus for the fund of $50,000 was pledged. Surely it augurs well for a college, when its alumni are willing and eager to advance money for the better carrying out of the plans of the corporation. It shows conclusively that they believe the bottle is not too old to contain new wine.

Personals.

The Alumni are requested to forward any information relative to former students at Middlebury which it may chance to be in their power to furnish.

'22. Among the oldest alumni present at commencement was Rev. I. N. Sprague of Detroit. Of a class numbering twenty-six, only two survive, of whom Mr. Sprague is one.

'33. After looking over the college buildings and especially the library, Hon. Mark Skinner of Chicago became interested in the manifest improvements in the equipment of the college and presented Dr. Hamlin with a check of $500 for the library.

'59. Iowa college has conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity on Rev. S. Leroy Blake of Fitchburg, Mass.

'64. Rev. G. R. W. Scott of Fitchburg, Mass., delivered the address before the Associated Alumni. Upon him alone was conferred the degree, D. D. Dr. Scott showed his interest in his alma mater by voluntarily pledging $2,500 for a permanent endowment provided an additional endowment of $50,000 can be secured.

'72. Rev. Edgar L. Walker was graduated in the last class from the medical department of the U. V. M. He has some thought of going abroad as a missionary.

'73. Rev. Geo. W. Brooks is acting pastor in a church in Charlestown, Mass.

'74. Prof. C. C. Gove of Beeman academy, New Haven, is one of the examiners of the Randolph Normal School.—*Register*. Mr. Gove was also an examiner of the college.

'76. Dr. G. B. F. Willard was an examiner of the college.

'76. Prof. E. H. Eastman, principal of the High school at Mount Ayr, Iowa, is again at home spending his summer vacation.—*Register*.

'77. J. M. Gifford was married to Miss Hattie R. Brangan of Mexico, N. Y., June 28th.

'79. E. R. Brainerd spent a day in town recently. He will begin pastoral work soon.

'80. A. C. Peck delivered the Master's oration, but was the only one of his class to take the Master's degree.

'81. C. S. Murkland has been graduated from the Howard Divinity School and will continue his studies in the post-graduate course at Andover next year.

'81. E. M. Parker spent a fow days of the latter part of June visiting Brooks of the same class at East Douglass, Mass. He attended a part of the commencement exercises at Cambridge.

'81. F. S. June is travelling in Iowa collecting information as to the number of church members of the Congregational order, with a view to the establishment of churches in towns where none now exist.

THE EIGHTY-THIRD COMMENCEMENT.

SUNDAY.

The church was well filled with an attentive audience at 3 o'clock p. m., when President Hamlin delivered the baccalaureate sermon.

The text was from Romans viii., 19–22: "For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth together in pain till now. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." After remarking upon the general unrest of the creation and the signs of disorder as universal, the discourse was confined to the moral creation of the world's intelligent beings. It is a groaning and suffering creation, but not bereft of aspiration and hope. It is often disappointed; hope is delayed, and yet with earnest expectation it waiteth. Some of the chief interests and activities of humanity were passed in rapid review in order to note the groaning, unsatisfied element. There are always ends aimed at that are not attained—a struggle for a perfection that is never reached.

The first topic remarked upon was government. Human governments have worked out no universally satisfactory form of government. Despotism, limited monarchy and republicanism, after thousands of years, still struggle for precedence. No individual government has reached what it seeks after. Despotism in Russia has required two whole years to crown her czar, with the supplementary aid of the gibbet, the knout, the dungeon and the mines of Siberia. In Germany, the solidest monarchy is confronted by socialism; in France the republic is hardly secure; England has Ireland, Egypt and the Chinese opium outrage to stain her hands; and the United States is not immaculate with regard to the colored people and the Indians. Government, then,

belongs to the department of creation in which the "earnest expectation" is not satisfied.

A second class of topics had relation to political economy or the science of wealth. Protection and free trade divide governments, statesmen and scientists. England and the rest of Europe, Gladstone and Bismarck, and England and her own colonies, take opposite views of this vital subject.

The political economy of intoxicants was also pungently referred to, and governments were charged with indifference to the chief source of crime and the chief clog to universal prosperity.

The political economy of war is also forced to the front by the groans of burdened humanity. The bone and muscle of productive power are wasted in camp and workshop for war. The millions "groan" under the enormous burdens; and monarchs are listening to the low sound of distant thunder, not knowing when a lightning flash may shatter their thrones and palaces.

An interesting view was given of the bare escape of Europe from the re-opening of the "eastern question" at the beginning of the year; but it is not easy to condense it.

Then other topics were discussed—the oppositions, animosities and abandoned theories of science and philosophy; the dissentions and divergencies of religion and theology; and lastly, that divine manifestation referred to in the text as the ultimate fruition of the "earnest expectation of the creature,"

The closing words were as follows:

Gentlemen of the Senior class, who are about to enter upon the activities and mingle in the conflicts of this troubled "creation," the outlook is to you, I trust, one of inspiration and hope. None but pusillanimous souls fear the strife that calls them into action. Strength is obtained only through effort, victory through warfare, skillful action by severe discipline in difficulties. The voice of the past and the present, the voice of this whole groaning creation says to you as with the voice of God, "stand fast", "quit yourselves like men, be strong"; "let no man despise thy youth." Not only keep step with the moving century, but lead it forward, each one in his own sphere, to that which is higher and better. You cannot live to yourselves alone without losing life. You cannot live, in the true sense, for others, without gaining it. May your hearts always beat in unison with the throbs of that creation that struggles for light and freedom under the leadership of its Redeemer. Through all these conflicts, sorrows, temptations and dangers, lies the path of progress. It is also the path of safety to those, and those alone, who choose the world's Redeemer as the way, the truth and the life.

In the evening occurred the address before the Young Men's Christian Association, (formerly the Philadelphian Society) in the church. The president of the association, G. M. Rowland, '83, presided. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Speare of Middlebury and Professor Austin read the scripture lesson.

The sermon was by Rev. D. F. Estes of Vergennes; text, Philippians i: 21. "For to me to live is Christ." The topic of the discourse was the text as the rule, the aim and the incentive of the true Christian life.

The music rendered by the choir at the services was exceptionally good. The choir was composed of the following singers: Mrs. Pitts, Miss H. M. Tupper, Miss Elga Stewart, Miss Gertie. Fletcher, Miss Laura Bell, Dr. W. H. Sheldon and Messrs. C. S. Murkland, John Kellogg, John H. Stewart and Sam. Sheldon. Mrs. Miner presided at the organ.

The graduating class in the afternoon occupied seats in the gallery on the right of the organist.

TUESDAY.

The preliminary meeting of the alumni was held in the chapel at 9 a. m. W. A. Guernsey was chosen temporary chairman, vice A. T. Stapleton, absent. The usual routine of appointing committees was transacted.

Owing to a misunderstanding, the audience was slow in arriving and the exercises at the church were delayed considerably, commencing about 11.30 a. m. Professor Austin presided,—Col. L. E. Knapp acting as marshal. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Chickering, '26, of Washington. Professor Austin then introduced the speaker, Rev. G. R. W. Scott, '64, of Fitchcurg, Mass., who spoke for about an hour, taking as his subject "The Man and the Mask."

We are, he said, often told that we must seem other than we are. Even some of those who do

not intend it lead this sort of dual existence. As an illustration the speaker instanced John Keble and gave a brief sketch of his life. He considered his book "The Christian Year," published in 1827, of unequal merit.

The best poems are those which show the poet and the man; the worst, the partizan. Some of Keble's excellencies as a poet were noted and contrasted with his defects, in which he manifests his partisanship. The latter are products of narrow views; as a man he sang of the higher aspirations of the soul. Keble's death, in 1866, stirred the hearts of England. We see all through his life the efforts of the man to throw off the mask. The lessons to be drawn from Keble's life were next considered. Thought and action, feeling and expression, should ever be in unison. It is a forgetting of this and a tendency toward artificiality that weakens and hampers the theology of to-day. We need to get away from the mere ceremonies and near to the reality of religion—to a manly christianity.

We need to restrain intellectuality cut loose from the heart. Never for a moment should we allow the brain and the heart to be separated. What is required is to awaken right sensibilities in the heart. Would it not be a good thing for Middlebury college if the alumni should throw their hearts into it; then prosperity, progress and money would be secured. Imagination should be awakened; and by imagination is meant that part of the being which lies between the brain and the heart. By cultivating the poetic faculty, even the study of mathematics may be made fascinating. In science, art, music, the study of language, all high knowledge, the mind passes beyond the region of intellect into that of the imagination and feelings. The Bible, in order to its right interpretation, must be studied lovingly. There are exterior helps to its study, but interior aids as well—the chief, the heart touched by the spirit. Scholars, above all others, need to guard against neglect of the heart—against separation from the world. Do not play a part, but be manly by being God-like. What our times demand is men who are men and not masks, those who recognize the difference between reality and show. Middlebury college has educated many men, and, let us hope, but few masks. And a small college, like this, where there are competent and manly professors with whom the students come into intimate relations, affords peculiar facilities for sending out into the world scholars who are more than scholars—cultured Christian men.

The address was an able and scholarly effort and was well received. The poem was omitted for want of a poet.

According to custom the orator was requested to nominate a candidate for honorary membership in the alumni association, and he nominated Mr. Frederick Fosdick of Fitchburg, and Mr. Fosdick was elected.

The alumni dinner followed in the lecture room of the church. Over sixty people sat down to the excellent repast. The post-prandial exercises consisted of brief remarks by Henry N. Hudson, Dr. Chickering, Dr. Hyde of Chicago, Rev. Mr. Scott and President Hamlin. Rev. M. L. Severance, for the chairman of the committee, Rev. W. N. Bacon, presented the report of the committee appointed a year ago to investigate and report concerning the advisability of admitting women to Middlebury college, The tenor of the report was in favor of such admission. Remarks favoring such a move were made by Hon. L. D. Eldredge and C. M. Wilds, after which the exercises terminated.

In the evening occurred the prize speaking in the church. In addition to the speaking for the Parker prizes of $24 and $12, by members of the Freshman class, this year the Sophomores competed for the new Merrill prizes numbering four—$30, $25, $20 and $15. These prizes are the income of a fund of $1,500 bequeathed to the president and fellows of Middlebury college by Rev. Thomas A. Merrill, D. D., who was for forty years pastor of the Congregational church here. The fund became available for the first time this year through the death of his widow.

The following is the programme:

PARKER PRIZE SPEAKING.

Music.

Overture—Trial by Jury, Waterman

Fair Play for Women, Geo. Wm. Curtis
Wm. H. H. Benedict, Amherst, Mass.

Leadership of Educated Men, Geo. Wm. Curtis
Jesse Ellsworth, Whiting.

The Future of the Republic, Geo. Wm. Curtis
Ralph E. Loveland, East Saginaw, Mich.

Two Villains of Dickens, Parsons
Willis M. Ross, Poultney.
Music.
Waltzes—La Petite Coquette, Zicoff

MERRILL PRIZE SPEAKING.

The Scholar in a Republic, Wendell Phillips
Edward G. Jenks, Poultney.
The Burning of Chicago, W. Carlton
James A. Jones, Middlebury.
Decoration Day, R. G. Ingersoll
Geo. P. Macgowan, Sackett's Harbor, N. Y,
Waterloo, P. Bain
Fred T. McLeod, Liverpool, N. S.
Music.
Polka—Maple City, Perkins
The Fireman's Prayer, Anon
Wilbert N. Severance, Manchester.
The Benediction, Francois Coppee
Michael A. Stapleton, Middlebury,
Negro Emancipation, Lord Brougham
Julius V. Sturtevant, New Haven.
Music.
Galop—Touristan, Zicoft

The prizes were awarded as follows: Parker prizes—first, to Willis M. Ross, second, to Jesse Ellsworth. Merrill prizes—first, to W. N. Severance; second, to Fred T. McLeod; third, to M. A. Stapleton; fourth, to J. V. Sturtevant. The judges were Rev. G. R. W. Scott, Dr. Hyde and E. H. Thorpe. Professor Eaton presided.

Acceptable music was furnished during the day by the Middlebury Cornet Band.

WEDNESDAY.

The annual meeting of the associated alumni was held in the chapel at 9 o'clock.

Rev. J. K. Williams of West Rutland was chosen moderator and C. S. Murkland temporary secretary. The chief business done was the election of officers as follows: President, Prof. Ezra Brainerd; vice president, C. C. Gove of New Haven; secretary, Henry S. Foote; committee on necrology, Prof. Brainerd, Prof. W. H. Parker, Rev. M. L. Severance; central committee, L. E. Knapp, J. M. Slade, C. M. Wilds; orator, E. B. Sherman; substitute, Rev. Charles Wetherly; poet, Prof. E. H. Higley; substitute, Rev. H. M. Tenney.

The commencement of the exercises of the graduating class at the church was delayed somewhat by the unfavorable weather of the morning, the audience being tardy in arriving. At 10.20 the audience were nearly all seated and the exercises commenced. The following is the

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Sprague, '22, of Detroit.
Music.

1. Oration, with Salutatory—The Substantiality of the Soul.
Samuel Sheldon, Middlebury.
2. Oration—Lord Byron and the Greek Struggle for Independence.
W. H. Hoyt, Sandgate.
3. Oration—Influence of Railroads on New England Industries and Life.
John Kellogg, Benson.
Music.
4. Oration—Medicine as a Profession.
J. B. O'Neill, Bristol.
5. Political Oration—The Republican Party and the Readjusters.
F. E. Frisbie, Ferrisburgh.
6. Oration—Limitation of Personal Liberty.
C. B. F. Palmer, New Haven.
Music.
7. Oration—Ruling Ideas in Architecture.
C. M. Severance, Manchester.
8. Oration—Legal Punishment.
Jesse Stearns, Bristol.
9. Oration, with Valedictory—The Progress of the Argument from Design.
G. M. Rowland, Edwardsville, N. Y.
Music.
10. Master's Oration—Right Objects and Methods of Thought.
A. C. Peck, Cavendish.
Music.
11. Inaugural Addresses,
Professors Eaton and Foster.
Music.

Conferring of Degrees.

Prayer. Benediction.

We clip the following abstracts and comments on the orations from the Rutland *Herald and Globe* of July 6th:

"Mr. Sheldon, the first speaker, argued that it was necessary to possess substance in order to have that to which attributes may belong; of one substance—the soul—we have immediate knowledge. It was a clear presentation of a difficult subject. On account of ill health Mr. Sheldon did not deliver the salutatory.

Mr. Hoyt gave an entertaining sketch of the Greek movement for liberty and the part Lord Byron took in aid of their efforts.

Mr. Kellogg discussed the effects of the increased transportation facilities afforded by railroads upon the social life and commercial interests of Vermont and New England. His subject was excellent and was well handled.

Mr. O'Neill enumerated the many branches of knowledge that combine to make a good physician, and held that the chief mission of the physician of the future will be to keep men well, not to make them well.

Mr. Frisbie gave an account of the rise of the Readjuster party in Virginia and its effects on reconstruction of the South and the Republican party, and closed with a severe criticism of Senator Mahone and his political methods.

Mr. Palmer showed how the idea of liberty had changed during the ages. To-day the tendency is toward individualism—a too liberal construction of personal liberty. He closed by defining what true personal liberty is. It was one of the best written productions of the day.

Mr. Severance pointed out the distinguishing characteristic of the architecture of Egypt, India, Greece and Rome—the Gothic style, and that of the Renascence and of modern times.

Mr. Stearns held that punishments must be certain and swift, if they were to be effectual. He instanced cases in our own State—those of Phair, the Rutland murderer; of Field, the Newport counterfeiter; of Peabody, the St. Johnsbury forger, and others—to prove that even in Vermont justice is neither sure nor swift. It was the best oration of the day and was effectively delivered.

Mr. Rowland maintained that the progress of science and general knowledge had strengthened, instead of weakened, the argument from design. The valedictory was in good taste, and, like the oration, well spoken.

Mr. Peck ably considered the elements that make thought valuable—definiteness, purpose and originality—and what should be the aim of the thinker.

The inaugural address of Prof. Eaton, teacher of Greek, who began his work here at the commencement of this college year, was devoted to a review of the history of the Greek language from Homer to our own time; a plea for the study of the language, and a statement of what was attempted to be done in this college.

Prof. Foster, who has charge of the department of moral and intellectual philosophy, and also came to Middlebury last year, spoke upon agnosticism and demonstrated its philosophic unsoundness. It was unfortunate that the addresses of Messrs. Eaton and Foster came, as they did, when the audience was fatigued with long sitting and listening. They were both well worthy the closest attention."

We publish the Master's oration complete on our first page.

The music, furnished by Blaisdell's Orchestra of Concord, was in every way superior and gave excellent satisfaction.

These degrees were conferred: A. B., on the members of the graduating class; A. M., T. W. Darling, Rev. C. B. Moody and A. C. Peck; D. D., Rev. G. R. W. Scott of Fitchburg, Mass.; Ph. D, Albert S. Bowles of Norwich, Conn.

The President then announced the award of honors to the Senior class, as follows: Highest honors, to Geo. M. Rowland, for work in philosophy and to Samuel Sheldon for work in physics; Honors to Jesse Stearns for work in political science; Honorable mention to J. B. O'Neill for work in physics and to C. B. F. Palmer for work done in the department of chemistry and natural science, and in electricity and telegraphy. Mr. F. H. Knowlton, who has been pursuing a special course, received honorable mention and commendation for excellent work in the department of physiology and related branches.

The corporation dinner followed, in the lecture room of the church, and was well attended. Among the speakers were Rev. Dr. Sprague, Henry N. Hudson, Rev. Dr. Geo. N. Boardman, Hon. J. W. Stewart, Rev. G. R. W. Scott, C. B. Moody and C. M. Wilds.

In the evening the usual Concert was given in the church by Blaisdell's Orchestra of Concord, N. H., and Mrs. H. F. Knowles of Boston, soprano, and Wm. Willis Clark of Boston, tenor. The following is the

PROGRAMME.

1. Overture—Semiramide, Rossini
   Orchestra.
2. Nomens Musicals, Schubert
   Orchestra.
3. Prayer and Barcerolle, from L'E'toile de Nord, Meyerbeer
   Mrs. H. F. Knowles.
4. Cornet Solo—Culver Polka, Stienhauser
   Mr. A. F. Nevers.
5. Song—The Angel at the Window, Tours
   Wm. Willis Clark.
6. Irish Patrol, Puerner
   Orchestra.
7. Vocal Duo—Una Notte a Napoli, Brignoli
   Mrs. Knowles and Mr. Clark.
8. Night Songs, for Strings, Jean Vogt
   Orchestra.
9. Song—It was a Dream, Cowen
   Mrs. H. F. Knowles.

10. Danse des Suetans, Polak Daniels
Orchestra.
11. Song—When Poverty Knocks at the Door, Roeckel
Wm. Willis Clark.
12. Overture—Merry Wives of Windsor, Nicolai
Orchestra.

The concert was one of the best ever given in Middlebury, and the large audience were generous with their encores. Mr. Clark was unfortunate in suffering from a severe cold and was unable to do himself justice. Mrs. Knowles, as usual, sang finely with good taste and expression and was frequently recalled by repeated and prolonged encores. The class were fortunate in their selection of musical talent.

The President's reception and the usual Commencement Promenade followed. The unfavorable weather again interfered with the latter, and there were not as many couples on the floor as there would otherwise have been.

Town and Campus.

Fourteen freshmen.

Commencement was a complete success.

Four women have entered the class of '87.

F. B. Hyde, '84, acted as assistant marshal, Wednesday.

The President's reception was more largely attended than usual, this year.

Mr. R. W. Pitts catered for the alumni and corporation dinners and for the dance.

The thriftiness of our villiage was very favorably commented on by the visiting alumni.

The work of the new trainer in elocution, Professor Silvernail, was efficient and satisfactory.

The new boarding hall was not ready for commencement, owing to a scarcity of laborers. It will be in operation at the beginning of the fall term, however.

The thanks of all concerned are due to the Register Company, and especially to the foreman, Mr. C. H. Severance, for the neatness and dispatch with which the commencement printing was executed.

The graduating class were the recipients of a large number of floral offerings. A large and handsome shield bearing a Chi Psi monogram, for Palmer, arrived too late for the exercises.

The students have all left town for the vacation. Many of the boys will engage in canvassing during the summer. We hope they may fill their pockets with a bountiful supply of "Uncle Sam's" promises to pay and that they meet with no hostile canines.

The removal of a floral design from the stage in the church, Wednesday evening, where it had been placed at the request of friends of one of the class, by two officious persons, because it was a society monogram, was, to say the least, an ungentlemanly and puerile performance.

The Corporation have arranged for the admission of ladies to the courses of study. They can take the whole curriculum or a course as special students. They also voted to establish a course in which Greek is omitted and other studies taken instead. Graduates from this course will receive the degree of B. S.

The prizes were awarded as follows: Waldo prizes—'83, Rowland, Sheldon, Severance; '84, Ten Broeke, Barton, Piper; '85, Stapleton, Severance, Jenks; '86, Bailey, Ross, and Benedict; literary prize, F. E. Frisbie; botanical prizes, R. J. Barton and B. F. Churchill; freshman Greek prizes—for best scholarship, W. M. Ross; for the greatest improvement, A. W. Varney.

Professor Foster met with a serious loss, Monday afternoon of commencement week. John Hayes had been washing the professor's carriage in the river back of professor Seeley's house and Mr. Foster led the horse down with the halter and hitched him to the carriage to draw it home. The animal becoming frightened, jumped into the river, drawing the carriage with him, and was drowned.

The Undergraduate.

VOLUME VIII.

1882-83.

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Personals.....G. M. ROWLAND.
Town and Campus.....SAMUEL SHELDON.
College Notes.....C. B. F. PALMER.
Exchanges.....C. R. PIPER.
Reviews.....G. E. LATHROP.
W. H. HOYT, - - - - JAMES TEN BROEKE.

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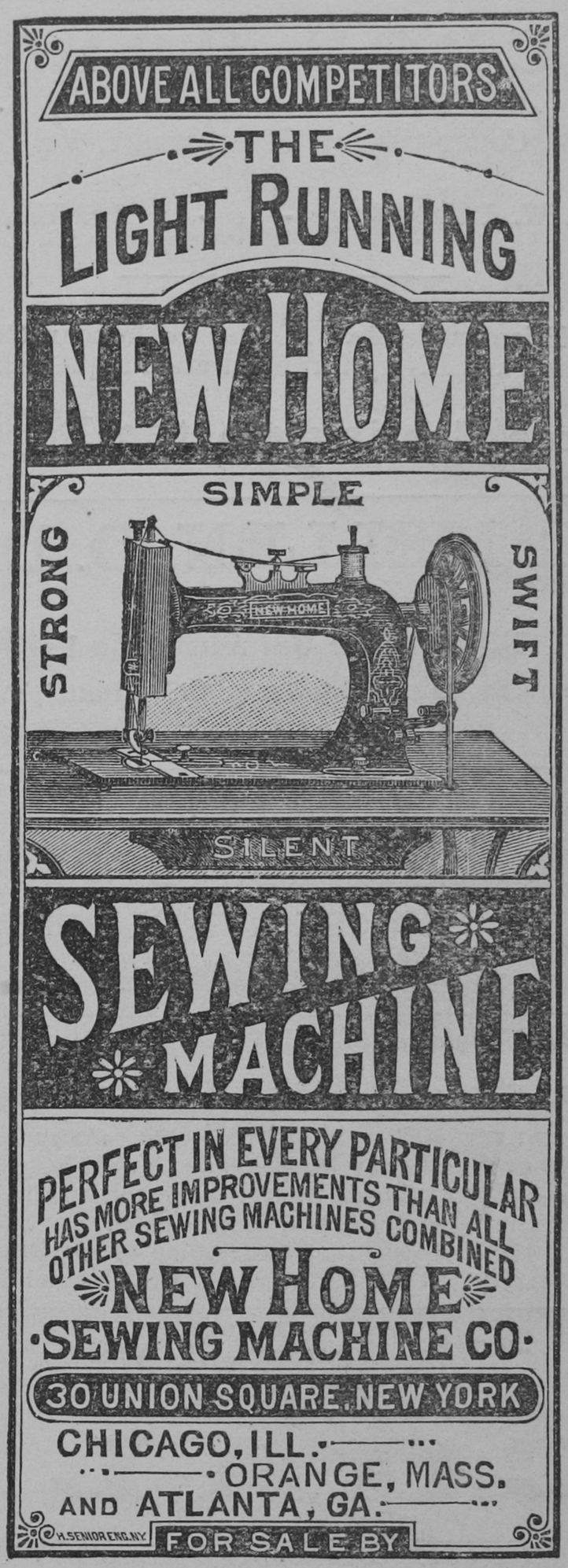

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